AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.   (currently amended): A control method relating to image formation, comprising the steps of:

judging whether a document written in a structured tag language comprises tags which can cause a conflict between the order in which coordinate positions of objects are determined and the order in which images of objects are formed;

performing control, when said tags are judged to be comprised, such that processing to form images is executed after completing processing to determine coordinate positions; and

performing control, when said tags are judged not to be comprised, such that processing to form images is initiated before processing to determine coordinate positions is completed, wherein said judging and said performing control are conducted for each document.

2.   (currently amended): A control method relating to image formation, comprising the steps of:

judging whether a document written in a structured tag language comprises tags which can impede initiating processing to form images of objects before completing processing to determine coordinate positions of objects;

performing control, when said tags are judged to be comprised, such that processing to form images is executed after completing processing to determine coordinate positions; and

performing control, when said tags are judged not to be comprised, such that processing

to form images is initiated before processing to determine coordinate positions is completed,

<u>wherein said judging and said performing control are conducted for each document</u>.

3.   (previously presented): The control method relating to image formation

according to Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein said judgment and said control are performed for an

entire document or for a portion thereof according to a type of said tags.

4.   (original): The control method relating to image formation according to Claim 1

or Claim 2, wherein said tags comprise at least one among "position"-type tags, "margin"-type

tags, "line_height"-type tags, "img"-type tags, and "counter"-type tags.

5.   (currently amended): A computer readable medium containing instructions for

causing a computer to perform operations, comprising:

judging whether a document written in a structured tag language comprises tags which

can cause a conflict between the order in which coordinate positions of objects are determined

and the order in which images of objects are formed;

performing, when said tags are judged to be comprised, control such that processing to

form images is executed after completing processing to determine coordinate positions; and

performing, when said tags are judged not to be comprised, control such that processing

to form images is initiated before processing to determine coordinate positions is completed,

wherein said judging and said performing control are conducted for each document.

6.   (currently amended): A computer readable medium containing instructions for causing a computer to perform operations, comprising:

judging whether a document written in a structured tag language comprises tags which can impede initiating processing to form images of objects before completing processing to determine coordinate positions of objects;

performing,-when said tags are judged to be comprised, control such that processing to form images is executed after completing processing to determine coordinate positions; and

performing, when said tags are judged not to be comprised, control such that processing to form images is initiated before processing to determine coordinate positions is completed, wherein said judging and said performing control are conducted for each document.

7.   (canceled).

8.   (canceled).

9.   (canceled).

10.   (canceled).

11.   (canceled).

12.   (canceled).

13.   (canceled).

14.   (currently amended):   A control apparatus, comprising:

an input circuit that inputs tags corresponding to a document written in a structured tag

language; and

a control circuit that determines if the tags indicate a potential conflict between an order

in which coordinate positions of objects contained in the document are determined and an order

in which images of the objects are formed,

wherein, when the tags indicate the potential conflict, the control circuit forms the images

after completely determining the coordinate positions, ~~and~~

wherein, when the tags do not indicate the potential conflict, the control circuit begins

forming the images before completely determining the coordinate positions, and

wherein, a position for image formation is not preset.

15.   (currently amended):   A control apparatus, comprising:

an input circuit that inputs tags corresponding to a document written in a structured tag

language; and

a control circuit that determines if the tags indicate a potential impediment to forming

images of objects contained in the document before completely determining coordinate positions

of the objects,

wherein, when the tags indicate the potential impediment, the control circuit forms the

images after completely determining the coordinate positions, ~~and~~

wherein, when the tags do not indicate the potential impediment, the control circuit

begins forming the images before completely determining the coordinate positions, and

wherein a position for image formation is not preset.

16. (new):   The control apparatus of claim 14, wherein images are formed in

ascending order in a downward direction.

17. (new):   The control apparatus of claim 15, wherein images are formed in

ascending order in a downward direction.